This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims: Please amend the claims as follows:

We claim:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method for the specific isolation of RNA from a sample, wherein said sample comprises RNA and DNA molecules, comprising

a) providing a magnetite solid phase;

b) providing a binding buffer which comprises guanidinium thiocyanate at a concentration which, after mixing with the sample, produces a final concentration of > 2.5M guanidinium thiocyanate;

c) mixing the sample with the magnetite solid phase and the binding buffer in the presence of phosphate, wherein said phosphate is present in the mixture at a concentration which supports the binding of RNA to said solid phase; and

d) isolating the solid phase with the specifically bound RNA with respect to DNA, wherein said DNA remains in the supernatant.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, further comprising optionally washing the solid phase, and subsequently eluting the RNA from the solid phase.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the elution is carried out using an elution buffer which facilitates a pH range > 7 and which comprises phosphate.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the binding buffer additionally comprises a chealator.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the solid phase consists of magnetite particles having a diameter of 0.01 to 2 μm and a specific surface area of 1 – 100 m^2/g.

Claim 6. (Cancelled)

Claim 7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Cancelled)

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the chealator is EDTA.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the RNA molecules are selectively isolated compared to DNA molecules.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the binding buffer comprises guanidium thiocyanate (GTC) at a concentration of greater than 3 mol/l.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the binding buffer comprises at least between 4 and 8 mol/l of guanidium thiocyanate (GTC) and between 5 and 200 mmol/l of EDTA.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, comprising additionally employing at least one of an elution buffer, a wash buffer or a phosphate salt solution.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said phosphate comprises inorganic phosphate or organic phosphate.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 14, wherein said phosphate comprises sodium hydrogenphosphate or creatine phosphate.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 14, wherein said phosphate is present at a concentration from between 2 to 50 mM inclusive.

Claim 17. (Cancelled)

Claim 18. (Cancelled)